

Seasons All Around – Ages 3 – 5 (Winter theme)

Description

Children search the galleries for artworks showing different seasons and discuss how color and landscape details help us know what season it is. In the studio, they create a crayon resist painting of their favorite season.

Art Problem to Solve

Explain what landscape details help us know what season it is.

Objectives

Students will:

- Learn what a landscape is and search for them in the gallery. Determine what season is depicted in the landscapes. Identify the visual evidence in support of their opinion.
- Discover that oil pastel and watercolor don't mix.
- Understand that basic shapes can be put together to create recognizable objects.

Head Start Child Outcomes Framework Indicators

- Creative Arts 5.2.1 Gains ability in using different art media and materials in a variety of ways for creative expression and representation.
- Creative Arts 5.2.4 Begins to understand and share opinions about artistic products and experiences.
- Science 4.1.3 Begins to participate in simple investigations to test observations, discuss and draw conclusions, and form generalizations.
- Science 4.2.1 Expands knowledge of abilities to observe, describe and discuss the natural world, materials, living things and natural processes.
- Science 4.2.2 Expands knowledge of and respect for their body and the environment.

Materials

In the Gallery:

- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats



In the Studio:

- Oil pastels, white and other colors
- 9" x 12" watercolor paper background
- Blue liquid watercolor
- Brushes
- Kosher salt
- Cut paper white circles, various colored squares, rectangles, and triangles
- Glue sticks

Instructional Activities

Engage

Ask the students what their favorite season is and what they like about that season. Ask them what season it is now, what happens in that season, and what they like to do during that season.

Create

Tell the students we are going to make some winter pictures. Ask them what kind of weather happens in winter. Using a white oil pastel on watercolor paper, demonstrate how to color some snow on the ground and paint over it with blue liquid watercolor and sprinkle salt on top. Pass out the watercolor paper and white oil pastels so students can complete this step. After they finish, pass out the blue liquid watercolor, brushes and salt. Tell them we will find out when we come back to the room to find out after we look at a couple of works of art in the galleries.

Explore



Define the word landscape with the students. Take them to a gallery with landscapes on view. Say “Let’s look around this room for landscapes. Raise your hand if you see one.” Call on the students to share which works are landscapes.

Take them to sit in front of *Terminal Yards*. Say “Take a look at this picture for a minute.” Then ask “What’s going on in this picture?” “What do you see that makes you say that?” and “What more can we find?” Facilitate a discussion of what season this landscape is based on the visual evidence in the painting. (snow, gray sky, etc.)



Take the students to sit in front of *A Pastoral Landscape* and ask similar questions as you did with *Terminal Yards*. The season is summer here, so we see green leaves on the trees, green grass, etc.

Practice

In the studio, ask the students what the salt did to their paintings. Conclude that the salt sucked up the wet paint to show the white paper underneath and made the pictures look like it is snowing. Read the story *The Snowy Day* and afterwards ask the students what season it was in the story, how they know it is winter and to recall the things that Peter did in the story to enjoy the snowy weather.

Create

Say “Remember when Peter made a smiling snowman in the story? If I wanted to add a snowman to my winter picture, what shapes would I use?” Add white circles to build a snowman on the demonstration picture. Ask “If I wanted to add a house or a building on my picture, what shapes would I use?” Show them the squares, rectangles and triangles and let them instruct you on how to make a house or building. Demonstrate how to add details with the oil pastels, including putting snow on the rooftop, drawing trees, and adding windows, doors, etc. to the house. Pass out the shapes and glue sticks and then the oil pastels after students have had a chance to glue.

Close

Invite the students to share their landscapes and ask those who volunteer to “Tell us about your picture.” Thank the group for visiting and compliment them on how well they participated in the lesson.